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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

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Application No.: New U.S. Patent Application

Filed: January 29, 2002

Docket No.: 111818

For: CULTURED CELLS OF *FICUS STIPULATA* THUNB. (= *FICUS THUNBERGII*) AND  
A METHOD FOR CULTURING TISSUES OF THE *FICUS STIPULATA* THUNB. BY  
USING SAID CULTURED CELLS

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
Washington, D. C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to initial examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please replace claim 3, 5 and 6 as follows:

a1 3. (Amended) The cultured cell set forth in claim 1, wherein the tissue of the *Ficus stipulata* Thunb. is a tissue originated from a plant body that takes roots through a cutting of the *Ficus stipulata* Thunb. being implanted therein.

5. (Amended) The cultured cell set forth in claim 1 wherein the culture medium is a WP culture medium or an MS culture medium.

a2 6. (Amended) A method for culturing a tissue of a *Ficus stipulata* Thunb., comprising the steps of subculturing the cultured cell set forth in claim 1 in a culture medium containing at least one kind of thidiazuron and benzyladenine in an amount effective to induce callus formation of the *Ficus stipulata* Thunb., and thereby obtaining a plantlet of the